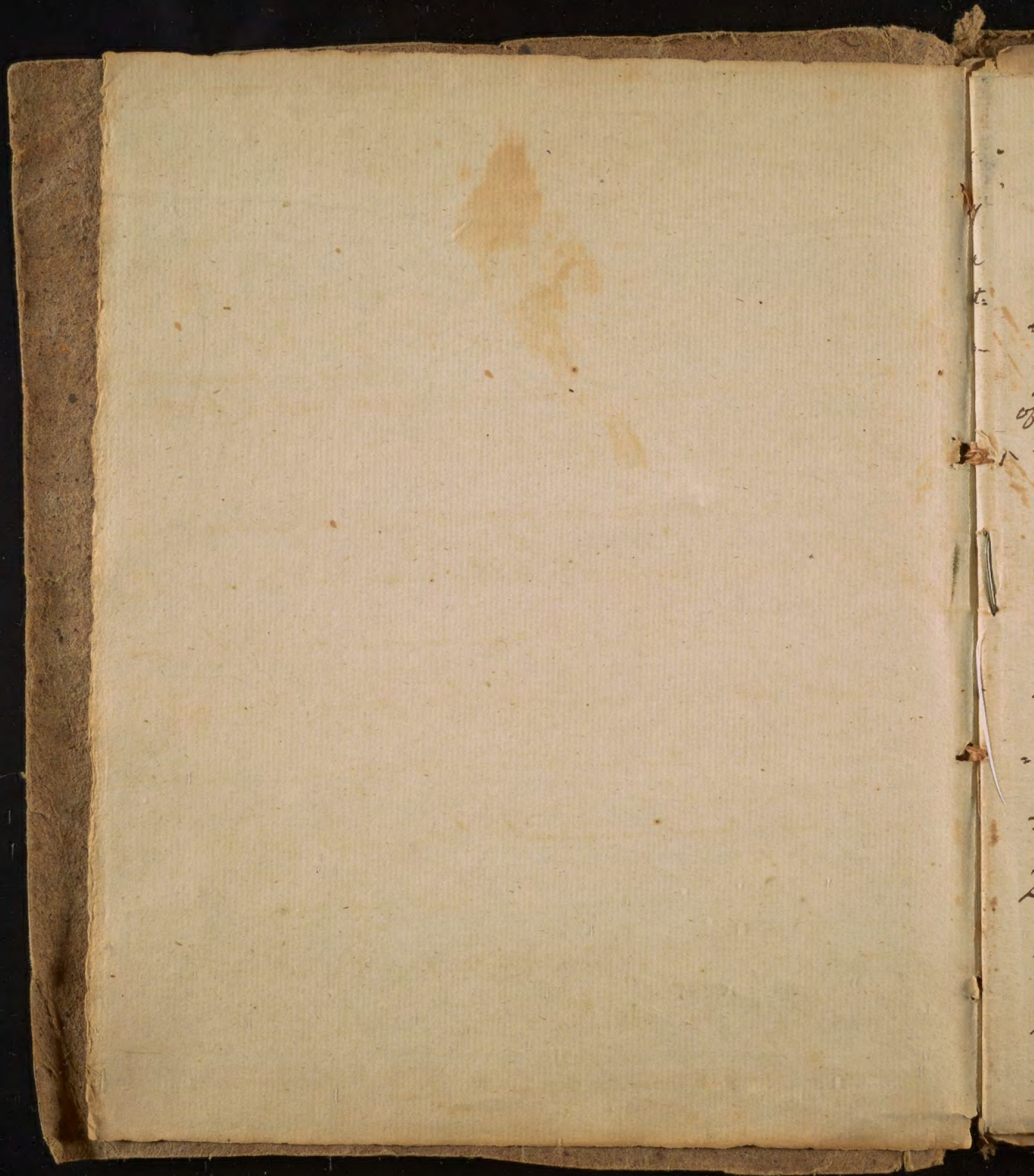


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Introductory lecture to a
course of lectures on the
Theory & practice of Physic.
delivered in the College of Philad:
before the Students & Trustees of the
College Novem^r 2nd 1789. -

by
Benj^m Rush



gentlemen

It would ^{be} unpardonable to
enter upon the Chair of the late Professor of the
Theory & Practice of Physics, ^{paying a humble} without a tribute
of respect & to his memory. —

The Dr John Morgan whose place I have
been called upon to fill, was born in the
city of Philad^a. — He discovered in early life
a ~~taste for~~ propensity for learning, & an un-
common application to books. — He acquired
the rudiments of ^{his} classical
and his ~~academic~~ learning at the Rev^d
Dr Hinley's Academy in Nottingham, & finished
his studies in this College under the present
Provost, and the late Rev^d Dr Allison. In both
both these Seminaries he acquired the ^{esteem} confidence
~~usage of his friends~~

by his diligence
 & affection of his preceptors, by his diligence
 & proper conduct, & rapid proficiency in his studies.
 in his studies, and by his respectful He was

always acquired knowledge of every kind with
 equal facility, & ~~he and shared largely in the~~ ^{was one of that}

In the year 1757 he was
~~clasp of worthiness that~~ ^{admitted to}
 literary

the first honors that ever were conferred
 by the College of Philadelphia.

During the last years of his attendance
 upon the College he began the study of
 Physic under Dr In^o Redman of this city.

His conduct as an apprentice was such as gained
~~his conduct as an apprentice was such~~
 him the esteem & confidence of his ^{preceptor} master, & the affection
 as gained him the esteem of his master &
 of his patients. ~~the~~

~~the affection of all his patients. He~~

was ~~resolute - industrious, faithful as an~~

~~apprentice, and won the hearts of the~~
~~sick by his affectionate and respectful~~

~~intercourse with them.~~

After he had finished his ~~top~~ studies
under Dr Redman he ~~entered into the~~^{entered into the}
~~provincial service of his Country as a Surgeon~~
& Lieutenant. ~~the provincial~~
~~of a body of in a regiment of troops raised~~
~~by the province of Pennsylvania, to oppose~~^{in the}
~~the~~ war ~~before~~ which Britain & America
carried on against the French nation. ~~For~~
~~as a~~^{as a} ~~his capacity of Surgeon, in which only he~~^{capacity}
~~in the Army,~~ acted he required both knowledge & ^{reputation} fame.
- He ~~was respected by the~~^{was respected by the}
~~acquired the confidence of the first officers~~
& ~~the love of~~^{beloved by} all the Soldiers of the Army, &
so great was his diligence & humanity
in attending the sick & wounded who were
the subjects of his care, that I well remember
to have heard it said "that if it were possible for

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any man to merit heaven by his good works,
Dr Morgan would be deserv'd it for his faithful
attendance upon his patients." -

In the year 1760 He left the army, and
sailed for Europe with a view of prosecuting the
his studies in medicine. ~~There~~ He attended the
Lectures & Disputations of the late celebrated Dr
Went Hunter, and afterwards spent two
years in attending the Lectures of the professors
in Edin^{burgh}? - ^{both the} Here ~~the~~ Monroes both father
& son - ~~Dr~~ Cullen - Rutherford - Whyt & Hope
were his masters, ~~He~~ with each of whom
he lived in the most familiar intercourse
& all of whom spoke of ^{him} ~~them~~ with affection
& respect. At the end of two years he pub:
-lished an ^{elaborate} ~~uncommon~~ & ingenious thesis upon

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the formation of his, & after ^{publicly} defending it, was admitted to the honor of Doctor of Medicine in the University.

From Edin² ~~he went to~~ ^{he went to} ~~returned to London, and~~
~~after sometime visited~~ Paris where he spent a winter in attending the anatomical lectures & dissections of M^r Sue. It was here he ~~performed~~ injected a kidney in so curious & elegant a manner, that it procured his admission into the academy of surgery in Paris. —

~~A French Physician~~ While on the continent of Europe, he visited Holland & Italy. ~~There~~
In both these countries he was introduced to the first medical & literary characters.
As he spoke ^{the} latin & french languages

with ~~perfect~~ uncommon ease & propriety he
 was enabled to converse with ^{by their means} the distinguished
 Scholars & philosophers to whom he was in-

terduced. ~~with ad~~ with advantage. He

spent several hours in ~~the Society of~~ ^{the Society of} company with
~~who spent several hours in~~ with Voltaire

at Geneva, and he had the honor of a
 long conference with the celebrated Mor-

-gagni at Padua when he was in the
 50th year of his age. This venerable Physi-

-cian who was the light & ornament of
 two or three ^{successive} generations ^{of Physicians,} was so pleased w:
 the Dr: that he claimed kindred with him

~~consequently he presented with a copy~~

from the recumbance of their names,

and ~~in so~~ on the blank leaf of a copy

of his works which he presented to him,

he inscribed with his own hand the following

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words "Affini suo, medico melancolico,
Johanni Morgan" Donat auctor". —

Upon the Doctor's return to London
he was elected for a Fellow of the Royal Society.
He was likewise admitted to as a licentiate
of the College of Physicians in London, & a
member of the College of Physicians in
Edinburgh. —

It was during his absence from
conferred with ^{suggested} ~~conferred~~ ^{the plan} ~~the plan~~ with Dr Shippen
how that he suggested ^{the} ~~the~~ idea of estab-
lishing a medical school in this city. —

~~The~~ [So much praise cannot be given to the
man who first ^{reported first} ~~reported~~ ^{riched his reputation} ~~riched his reputation~~
& success in his profession ^{a young country} ~~young country~~
young country by introducing into it ana-
tomical lectures & dissections. The merit of
this undertaking is wholly Dr Shippen's, but

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✓ The historian who shall hereafter ~~do~~ relate the progress of medical Science in America, will be deficient in candor & justice if he does not connect the Name of Dr Morgan with that auspicious Era in which Medicine was first taught & studied as a science in this country.

The ~~Professor~~ ^{honors, and} returned to Philad^a in the year 1765 loaded with literary ~~honors~~ ^{honors} ~~and~~ was received with open arms by his fellow citizens. They felt an ^{interest in} ~~obligation~~ to him for having advanced in every part of Europe the honor of the American name.

The ~~first year of his~~ ^{honors} immediately after his arrival, he ~~interested upon~~ was elected professor of the Theory & Practice of Physic, in ^{the} ~~the~~ college of this city; ~~He~~ ^{soon afterwards} ~~and~~ delivered at a public commencement his plan for the ^{conducting} ~~establishment~~ of

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a medical School ^{with} ~~is~~ the College in this city.

- This discourse ~~had great merit~~ was composed
with ~~undeviating~~ ^{great taste} & judgement, & ~~was~~ contained
many of the true principles of liberal medical
Science. - ✕

In the year 1769 he had the pleasure of
seeing the first fruits of his ^{labors for} ~~industry, and~~
~~the advancement~~ ^{Five young gentlemen}
~~perfection of~~ ^{in that year} medicine. ~~In that year~~
~~were admitted~~ ^{most} received from the hands of
the present the first honors in medicine that
ever were conferred in America. V. The historian.

But the zeal of Dr Morgan was not
confined to the advancement of medical sci-
ence alone. He had an active hand in
the establishment of the American Philo-
sophical Society, and he undertook in the

In ~~obedience~~ to the advice of his friend
 John D^r Lathurgill of London to undertake to
 introduce the European mode of practicing
~~physic~~

[The difficulties of combining the duties
 of an Apothecary - a Surgeon & a physician
 has long been a subject of complaints among
 the liberal votaries of medicine in America.

~~Besides~~ ~~to~~ the many objections that
 have been made to ^{this mode of practice} it, that ~~one~~ of its being

unfriendly to the advancement of medicine
~~may~~ may be added as

is ~~certainly~~ a principal one. ^{therefore} In obedience

to the advice of D^r Lathurgill of London D^r Morgan
^{arduous task}

undertook the ~~bold enterprise~~ of separating
 the professions of the physician, from those

of the Apothecary & Surgeon, and in imi-
 tation of the practice of European physicians

required from his patients a compensation
 for his services as soon as he had performed
 them. Unfortunately the prejudices & habits
 of the people of America had not been suffi-
 -ciently weighed in this new & difficult Un-
 -dertaking, nor ~~was~~ was a due atten-
 -tion paid to the difference in the ~~condition~~
 & of the Value of money
 & circumstances of men in ~~new~~ an old
 & a new country. In Europe where prop-
 -erty has acquired its ^{height} ~~value~~, ~~there~~ with and
 where ~~is~~ ~~importance~~ there ^{is} ~~with~~ always a quan-
 -tity of stagnating money; but in America
 the opportunities of employing money
~~money is in perpetual motion to advantage~~
 are so numerous that few men think of
 keeping more in their ^{possession} ~~treasuries~~ that is sufficient
 for the ordinary expenses of the carrying on

their business, or maintaining their families.
 - hence arises the difficulty of rewarding a
 physician for his services as soon as he has
 performed them even among persons ^{of} ~~in~~
 the most ample fortunes. From the habits
 of the people of America, & their inability
~~prejudice, & inability of our country~~ to
 support the European mode of practising
 physic Dr Morgan failed in his attempt
 to introduce it. The influence of a disap-
 pointment in ~~such~~ an understanding ~~man~~
 would have been painful to a man of less
~~sensibility of Dr Morgan~~ ^{character} than Dr
 Morgan. It affected him in the most
 sensible manner, and ^{if in the regarding} ~~produced~~
~~of and~~ ^{everying} ~~of~~ ^{of his life}
~~change in his temper & conduct as he discovered~~
 in his subsequent life, did not accord

Splendor its 14

with the ~~brilliance~~ of the morning, of his life,
it must be ascribed to the influence of this
disappointment ~~upon his temper & conduct.~~

He possessed an uncommon capacity
for acquiring knowledge - His memory was
extensive & accurate - He was intimately ac-
quainted with the Latin & Greek Classics, &
~~often expressed his~~ ^{had} read & copied much
in medicine. In all his pursuits he was perse-
vering & indifragible. He was capable of
friendship, and in his intercourse with his
patients discovered the most amiable, and
I never ^{knew} ~~heard of~~ a person who had been attended by him
except by ~~exemplary~~ ^{exemplary} tenderness. ^{respect.} ~~that did not speak of his sympathy~~ ^{attention} with gratitude &
Such was the man who once filled the
Chair of the theory & practice of physic
in our College. He is now no more: His
[The historian who shall hereafter

~~describe~~
~~second~~ the progress of medical Science in America;
 will be wanting in candor and justice if he
 does not connect the name of Dr Morgan
 with that auspicious Era in which the
 Science of medicine was ^{first taught & studied as} ~~transplanted~~ in this
 a Science
 country.

~~remains have been conveyed without pomp to the~~
~~grave. To oblivion let us consign the man all his~~
~~inventions, but let the world~~ ^{his many} ~~his~~ ^{hopes}
~~be aware of his~~ ^{his regains} ~~imperfections~~ now sleep with him in
~~the grave. But~~ ^{his regains} ~~not so his virtues~~ the memory of his
 useful actions - Every act of benevolence which
 he performed - every public spirited enterprise
 which he planned, or executed - & every tear
 of Sympathy which he shed, ^{faithfully} ~~was~~ ^{are} ~~is~~ ^{reco-}
 = did, in heaven, & shall be preserved for ever.

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thus publicly
Having discharged a duty to my predecessor in
of the theory & practice of physic
the Chair which I have been called upon to fill, I
nature of that branch of medicine.
I now to say a few words upon those ~~two~~ ^{points}
~~which~~ ^{points} that have been assigned me. —

By the Theory of Physic, I understand, the Doctrine
of ^{the} causes founded upon the history of the symptoms of dis-
eases — By the Practice of Physic, I understand the cure
of diseases founded upon an investigation of their causes.

These two are inseparably connected together, & that man
ceases to be a physician who attempts to ^{separate} ~~divide~~ them.

I am ~~not~~ aware that there is a sect of physicians who
call themselves Empirics & who affect to be led by experi-
ence ^{only}, in opposition to those who add reasoning to
their observations & who upon this account are called
Dogmatists. This sect of physicians assert, that we know
nothing of the causes of diseases, & that experience ^{should be} ~~is~~
only guide in curing them. The theory of diseases is
founded upon an accurate knowledge of the structure
& functions of the human body. The human body
may be considered in threefold view of a chemical
mist —

mist - an hydraulic machine - & an animated system.

When we contemplate it as diversified in this manner, we
 present there are many difficulties in admitting y^r. dog-
 matic plan of physic. We know but little of that
 part of y^r. functions of the body which depends upon che-
 mical principles. The mode of aggregation of the
 simple solids - the change of the food into chyle, & the
 constituent parts of the blood, have never yet been
 fully ascertained by the chemists. As an hydraulic
machine we know still less of the human body - Ma-
 thematics here give us no assistance, but, on the con-
 trary have egregiously misled physiologists in all ages.
 As an animated system we are, ^{still more} ignorant of it, ^{for who} ~~is able to explain all~~
~~insects that to talk of the laws of the nervous system,~~
 or the method by which sensations are communicated to
 the brain? ~~is to subject ourselves to ridicule.~~ These
 things, we admit, militate against y^r. advocates for dog-
 matism in physic. But there is a still greater obje-
 ction to it than any we have mentioned - A dogmatist
 generally confines himself to one system of physic only.
 This, like some favourite hypothesis, when once a man
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has conceived it, assimilates every thing to itself as proper
nourishment; & ~~generally grows strong by every thing he sees,~~
~~hears, reads, or understands.~~ Thus y^e alchemist finds the
philosophers stone clearly discovered in Homer's *Odyssey*, & even
in y^e old testament; & the mystic divine finds proofs of
the trinity, & other mysteries of religion in the fire that
warms, in the candle that lights, in the aliment that sup-
ports, & in y^e very wool & silk that cloathe him. Now it is
easy to see, that such a servile complaisance with any system
of Physic must be dangerous, since no system is perfect. It
was from the influence of a single system that
Galen ~~long~~ ^{so long} reigned y^e tyrant of y^e schools of physic. - It
was reckoned a species of impiety to contradict him. - Dr.
Boerhaave succeeded ^{by his system} ~~in some measure~~ to his empire, ^{in medicine} es-
pecially in y^e Brittish dominions. In a word, almost every
system of physic which has been broached has in y^e end
enslaved its votaries.

Let us next call forth Empiricism & examine it in the
same manner that we have done Dogmatism. The Empiric
pretends to cure all disorders by imitation - But how ~~few~~ ^{few}
even of the oldest Physicians have met with all the variety
in disorders which books describe? I have heard Dr. Hunter,
an old practitioner, declare that he every day of his life met
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with new cases even in that simple branch of medicine, mid-
wifery. Nor will books supply y. deficiencies of their observa-
 tions. The histories of diseases (^{& remedies} partly upon y. acc^t. of y. ambi-
 tious in language, & partly upon y. acc^t. of y. love of y. mar-
 vellous - or a preconceived bias in favor of a certain hypothesis
 or a particular remedy) are seldom to be trusted. Besides,
 diseases w^h resemble each other may be much diversified by
y. difference of season - age - constitution - sex & the like (all
 of w^h experience throws out of the question), & this is y. reason,
 why all professed Empirics or quacks have in all ages done
 so much mischief. If experience be infallible, then y.
 same medicine will always (*ceteris paribus*) produce y.
 same effect - i.e. it will operate alike in all ages & in
 all countries - tho' administered by ever so many differ-
 ent hands. But let us enquire, is this really y. case?
 Rose-water - lime water - ^{wood lice} ~~millepedes~~ - soap - Spine buds were
 all extolled as specifics in an hundred disorders a few
 years ago; but at present they are fallen into disuse, for
 no other reason than because they did not answer the high
 character w^h was given of them. The bark in England
 is esteemed a powerful antiseptic - Dr. Astruc denies that
 ever it had any such effects in France. The sal Seignet
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was reckoned a specific for curing intermittents while y^e man-
 ufactory of it was monopolised by an apothecary at Rochelle,
 but as soon as the method of making it became generally
 known it ceased to have any ^{remarkable} ~~in that disorder~~ virtues. But further, - How
 often do we find Physicians differ in their acct of y^e same
 medicine? - One ascribes a ~~number~~ of virtues to a particular
 remedy, wh^{ch} another says he never saw do any service, &
 Both speak from long & repeated observation.

We need not be surprised at these things, when we consider
 that all y^e knowledge acquired in this way is lodged in y^e
 memory, which is a faculty of y^e mind, y^e least forward
 to serve us. I believe few Physicians remember more
 than y^e two or three last years of their practice. Many-
 many cures have been performed by medicines which
 have been thrown out of a window - or into y^e fire.

Let us enquire a little into y^e characters of some of
 the greatest empirics that have appeared in Physic.

Hippocrates was y^e first founder of them - hence we find
 him so often called by his followers, the Boon Oracle - The
 Father of Physic - Even y^e ^{old man} Divine Hippocrates itself [For-
 give me, illustrious shade, if I turn a apostate from thy
 worship - I was once an Idolater at thy altar! nor count it
 sacrilege

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scolded, gentlemen, if I venture to pluck a few grey hairs
from his hoary head]

The aphorisms of Hippocrates are valued as 4th most genuine
one of his works. Many of them I grant are ~~too~~ invariable-
ly true & well founded - But I believe I should have 8th
^{Testimony} of 9 physicians out of ten on my side, if I should
say that 4th greatest part of them are false. I have no
foundation in nature - nor does 4th making 4th necessary
allowance for 4th difference of age & climate in which he
wrote plead any thing in his favor. His Prognostics
are nothing but histories of cases in which he has suffered
nature to exert herself without any assistance from art, most
of which terminated unsuccessfully. But if we turn our
eyes to modern times we shall find empiricism to be a
composition of falsehood - absurdity - & impudence. Dr.
Dover a noted quack in England proposed curing all
disorders ^{by} ~~with~~ crude quicksilver. He published ~~that~~
~~and~~ a pompous acct of ^{the} ~~his~~ cures & he had performed with it a
materia medica & administered plentifully in many dis-
orders, but with so little effect - nay with ^{such} obvious inconve-
niences that it was ~~raised~~ ^{soon bell into} ~~again~~ ^{dispute} ~~in a few years~~. The
late Dr. Ward was famous for curing fistulas - & obstinate

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cutaneous eruptions of all kinds. After his death his recipes
^{made public.}
 were ~~published to the world~~ His medicines were prepared as
 carefully as possible & administered by y^e most knowing of
 y^e faculty, but to no purpose. They seldom did any service,
 & ^{now} are justly laid aside, while other preparations of y^e
 some simples much safer & equally efficacious are sub-
 stituted in their room. - How is it then that quacks
 run away with the credit of performing so many cures?
 [For the love of health like the love of gold levels all capacities]
 How is it that even men of sense become advocates for
 them, & puff off their medicines? - It is easy to answer
 these questions. - Among the many patients which come
 into their hands, they no doubt sometimes stumble upon
 a medicine which performs a cure. Should a man go
 blindfolded into an apothecaries shop & give the first me-
 dicine he laid his hand upon he might do the same. -
 These cures are highly extolled while the many incurable
 ones they have met with, together with the many more
 whom they have sent out of the world are buried in
^{oblivion} ~~obscurity~~. The reason of this is plain, The persons or the
 relations of those who have been the unhappy victims
 to ^{their} ~~their~~ ignorance are ashamed to expose them, inasmuch
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as they at y^e same time ^{expose} their credulity, & call their own ^{Judgements} ~~wisdom & discernment~~ in question. — Hence it has sometimes been said very properly that "quacks are y^e greatest liars in y^e world, except their patients." If a Physician with all the advantages of education — long experience — & close observation sometimes falls into mistakes as to y^e seat of disorders — or y^e best method of curing them (this is wth all of them allow) what can we expect from men without education, or without a capacity of growing wise by y^e longest experience or Observation.

After what we have heard on both sides of the question it will be no difficult matter to determine which we shall prefer y^e dogmatical or empirical plan of physic. — The former has all the advantages without any of the disadvantages of y^e latter. The dogmatist may profit equally wth y^e empiric from observation & experience. — It has been objected to dogmatism that we have many very false theories in physic — ^{this is} true! But I will venture to say that physic abounds much more wth false facts (if I may be allowed y^e expression) than ^{with} false theories. — But further — Every empiric must allow that

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he sometimes meets wth difficult cases in which his experience
 fails him - analogy he has nothing to do wth, for this belongs
 to y^e dogmatist. In these cases let me ask who will stand y^e
 best chance of curing y^e disorder, the man who trusting entire-
 ly to his memory has neglected y^e use of his reason, & knows
 nothing about y^e relations of ideas or facts to one another, or
 y^e physician who has long been in y^e habit of exercising his
 reasoning faculties, & who knows how to take ^{the} advantage of
 y^e most remote analogies? Ignorance & presumption are
 his companions - while wisdom & diffidence always go hand in
 hand. The empiric never doubts of any thing - The dogma-
 tical if always sceptical - The empiric is confident - The
 dogmatist only conjectures. - In a science so uncertain -
 so precarious as physic which of y^e two is fittest to be
 trusted? — But in spite of all the empiricks say of y^e
 boasted infallibility of their experience I will venture to
 say there is not one of them but uses a theory of some kind.
 Reasoning is so natural to man that he cannot readily lay
 aside y^e habit of it. Dr. Sydenham who affected to despise
 it, is full of it, insomuch that it is hard to tell whether
 his theories or his practical observations have taken up
 most

most room in his works. I once met wth a physician from one of the
 West India islands who accused me in talking on some medical
 subjects of being too theoretical ^{only} ~~merely~~ because I used a theory
 w^{ch} he did not believe. In the course of our conversation he gave
 me an acc^t of an hysteria in which (said he) the hysteric ma-
 ter was thrown upon y^e kidneys & all y^e patients complaints
 - Hold Sir (said I) you are too theoretical - How do you
 know y^e hystericks are occasioned by matter? What is the
 specific nature of this matter? Where is it lodged - & w^h is it
 excites it into action? - These questions surprised him, & he
 did not know till then, that he was a dogmatist in phy-
 sic. - I might insist ^{further} upon this subject, ~~longer~~, & prove
 that y^e greatest quacks in y^e world never prescribe a single
 medicine without a reason of some sort for it. Some peccant
 matter is to be destroyed, some razing acid or alkali is to be
 obtained, or ^{some} viscid humors ^{are} to be thinned in all their pre-
 scriptions. - In a word as ^a religion of some sort
 has been found necessary in all ages to preserve
 good morals, so theories of some sort have
 been found equally necessary to preserve a
 regular mode of practice. —

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In the progress of medicine towards its present state of improvement different theories have been proposed to account for the causes of diseases by different ~~men~~ men. The physicians of the present century are divided between the systems of Dr Stahl - Dr Boerhaave - Dr Cullen - & Dr Brown. In accounting for the diversity of the theories of these authors the following circumstances deserve our attention. -

1 ~~The~~ Dr Stahl lived and wrote in Saxony at ~~that~~ among a people ~~who~~ of the most simple manners. ~~Their~~ Their diseases of course were simple, & such as were often cured by the simple operations of nature without the aid of medicine. hence arose Dr Stahl's high opinion of



the Vires naturae medicatrices, and of the existence of an Anima medica in the ~~human~~ ^{human} ~~animal~~ body. We shall hereafter show the weakness of these healing powers in nature in the most simple diseases, & the pernicious tendency of them in those artificial diseases which are produced by the customs of civilized life. —

2 Dr Boerhaave lived & wrote in a country where a moist atmosphere, & an excessive quantity of animal diet produced a immense number of the diseases of the skin. These were supposed to arise from ^{metematural or} an impure state of the blood, and hence Lentor - tenuity - and Aurimony



in that fluid were supposed by him to be the proximate causes of all the diseases of the human body. —

3 Dr Cullen lives & has written in a country in which indolence & luxury have let loose a number of ^{new diseases} ~~transmissions~~

These diseases appear to be seated chiefly in the ^{solids, & particularly in the} nervous system — hence the system of Dr Cullen ~~is~~ is founded upon the discovery of the laws & properties of vascular - arterial & nervous fibres which have been unfolded by the phenomena of the present artificial diseases of Great Britain. —

4 Let it not be thought dishonourable to the illustrious names that have been mentioned to add to them, the humble



name of Dr. Brown as the author of a Sys-
 -tem of physic. The things which are despised,
 & even the things which are not are some-
 -times chosen by ~~divine providence~~ to confound
 & to bring to naught the
 the ~~enlightened~~ pride of science as well as of
 religion. Let us do homage to genius where-
 -ever it is to be found. It is an emanation
 of from the Deity, for its business is to discover
 the relation of things as they appear to the divine
 mind. Dr. Brown was ^{bred to an humble meek employment.} educated a weaver, ~~and~~
 when ~~after~~ acquiring ~~the~~ he arrived at the state of Man-
 -hood he applied himself to classical & mathe-
 -matical learning, and afterwards applied
 himself to the ^{studied} study of medicine in the
 University of Edinburgh. He was my fellow
 student in the years 1766-67 & 68, and ~~there~~ ^{well}



remembers that ³⁰ ~~not only his diligence in~~
~~often witnessed his industry and~~
to have often ~~to~~ ^{to} attended lectures, but ~~listened~~ ^{listened} with equal
~~great pleasure~~ ^{great pleasure} & delight to a ~~familiar~~ ^{familiar} ~~Oril-~~
~~linian~~ ^{to the} ~~and~~ ^{ingenuity & brilliancy} with
which he ~~expressed~~ ^{would} ~~all subjects, as to~~
render even the most common thought
~~agreeable~~ ^{entertaining} in conversation. After attending
the medical lectures, he undertook to
think for himself, and ~~he~~ soon afterwards
began to lecture upon the institutes
of medicine & the practice of physic. He
controversied many of Dr Cullen's opinions
and refuted some of them. From an affect-
-tation of originality he chose new words
to express the same ideas, thereby giving
his system the complexion of a new one.



As far as I have been able to discover, I do not find ~~the systems~~ any great difference between the systems of Dr. Cullen & Dr. Brown. They both reject the humoral pathology, & they both apply ^{in the most extensive manner} extensively the laws of the nervous & the arterial system. Dr. Brown differs from Dr. Cullen chiefly in increasing the number of diseases from debility & of course in the remedies which are proper to remove them. An accident led Dr. Brown to embrace the idea of what he calls Asthenic diseases. He was much afflicted with the Asthenic gout, and was frequently relieved by stimulating medicines. This led him to suppose that 97 out of 100 diseases arose from debility, &

V One of his universal remedies, ~~with~~ viz.
Ardent Spirits ^{shall} meet with our reverent
reprobation, & ^{the use of} all of them shall be guarded
in such a manner ^{as} to ~~prevent~~ derive the greatest benefit
from them. —

stimulating medicines
 were to be cured only by ~~the tonic~~ ^{other - Volatile alkali, ~~any~~ spirits &} ~~acids~~
 the chief of which he supposed to be Opium.
 From ~~such~~ ^{the} an examination which I
 have been able to give this system I am
 disposed to believe it amounts to little more
 than Dr Fullen's system simplified & extended.

- It is however entitled to our attention,
 and will I have ~~no~~ ^{lead to} doubt ~~prove~~ ^{the}
~~foundations~~ of many ^{useful inquiries &} ~~further~~ discoveries
 in medicine. I need ~~not~~

Should it asked which of these systems
 of physic that have been mentioned, I shall
 adopt in the ensuing course of lectures, I
 should reply ^{no one} ~~neither~~ of them, but a part
 of them all.

As, ⁱⁿ among the different systems of
 religion, ~~these~~ truth & error are divided



different 33 among them all,
in ~~very equal~~ proportions, so I suppose it
in physic that ~~no~~ no system is so erroneous
that has not some truth in it, & none so
true that has not some error blended with it.

As a single Attachment to any One
system of religion, often leads to errors both of opi-
-nion & practice, so ~~as~~ an exclusive attach-
-ment to any One system of physic leads to
errors in opinion, and mischief in the
treatment of diseases. —

~~The time will come~~

I consider Dr Fuller as the Columbus
of medicine, ~~and I often see the consequences~~
~~of the truth of many of his principles~~
I ~~cannot~~ ^{relinquish} ~~not feel the least disposition~~
~~to desert them~~

I view Dr Brown ~~as~~ in the light of

V I shall only add further upon this subject that - ^{theory}
It was by the successful ^{lately} application of Dr Brown's ~~reasons~~ ^{in the cure of the}
of madness that Dr Willis triumphed ~~over the physicians~~
King of Britain ~~after~~ over all the physicians of the Royal
Family. ~~It is said the Dr had acquired had been taught the~~
~~benefit of instruction~~

~~Dr~~ In every Attempt to establish principles in
Medicine, I shall keep a steady eye upon
the climate of our country, & upon the
present state of society & manners of the
^{inhabitants} ~~people~~ of the United States. - These will make
a departure from the opinions & practice
of European physicians in some instances
absolutely necessary. -

a man who explores & describes a
 country which has been previously
 discovered. After the application of his
 principles to ~~explain~~ ^{the} cure of Tetanus -
~~mania~~ - ~~madness~~ ^{mania} -
 Hemoptysis & the pulmonary Consumption
 which I have given to the world, ^{or taught} I cannot
 in my lectures,
 be supposed to be unfriendly to his opinions
 & practice in many diseases. I call them
 his principles, but ^{it is well} some of you know
 that I had adopted & taught them, ^{during} ~~in the~~
^{during the late war &} ~~University~~ long before I had heard that Dr
 Brown had broached an original idea
 in medicine. X -

I have learned & unlearned, be-
 lieved & disbelieved, ~~received~~ so many
 speculative opinions in medicine, that

15 Oct 11 make add further remarks at 11.11.11

V In describing the Diseases of the Brain, I shall ^{deliver} a few observations ~~and remarks~~ upon the faculties of the mind, and the reciprocal influence of the body & mind upon each other in diseases. ^{The Science of} Metaphysics ^{is the} ~~and the province~~ of a physician, & it never can be stripped of the remains of the Jargon which it has contracted ~~at~~ in the Schools, still ~~and~~ ^{nevertheless} ~~physicians~~ ^{beginning} ~~it is~~ ^{it is} corrected by the ~~principles~~ ^{principles} a thorough knowledge of the laws of matter & motion as they appear in the human body. —

I confess I feel a great deal of timidity in
 venturing to any new principles, Or in sup-
 porting old ones. This diffidence in my own
 judgement will lead me to be more industrious
 in collecting ^{& communicating} facts, — for facts, are the morality
 of physic. —

In treating upon diseases, I shall aim
 principally to give an accurate history of their
 remote - predisposing - [&] occasional causes —
 — I shall endeavour to distinguish diseases
 carefully from each other, & ^{shall} conclude
 with the method of Cure. ~~where I can~~
~~explain the proximate cause of a disease,~~
~~I shall attempt it.~~ —

In expressing my diffidence upon the
 subject of proximate causes, let it not



I mean decline the theory of
 diseases. He supposed that I wish to ~~understand~~ ^{the practice of} theory
 in a course of lectures upon physic. ~~Then~~
 from it. ~~In vain shall we consider medicine~~
 as ~~advancing towards perfection~~ ^{while} ~~until~~
 we are unable to explain the cause of
 every disease. - ~~Theory is useful as it leads to~~
~~demonstration~~ ^{theories should} In general, it is a good practice
 arise out of facts, ~~to establish~~ ^{even} but in some instances
^{preconceived} theories lead to the discovery & selection
 of facts. ~~Let us not~~ Sir Isaac Newton
 preconceived his sublime system of philoso-
 phy before he demonstrated it by facts &
 experiments. ^{I repeat again therefore that} ~~Let us not~~ ~~what was said formerly~~
^{Principles are} Theory is natural to the mind of man;
 & a physician who renounces theory



renounced at the same time human reason. A man can as well cease to think, as cease to arrange facts under general principles. — If Dr. Sydenham reasoned upon diseases, what physician will attempt to describe or cure a disease without it? —

In looking for perfection in medicine, it is necessary that we should wait for perfection in other branches of science.

Truth is an Unit, and all ~~the~~ its numerous ^{parties} ~~fractions~~ must be collected together before we shall be able to behold any one of them in a ^{perfect} state. ~~of perfection~~
— This idea should enlarge the views



~~The~~ inquiries of a physician & lead him
to embrace the whole circle of ^{the} sciences
in his inquiries. It furnishes ^{a tendency of medicine} him at the
same time with an apology for the difficulty
or impossibility of explaining the proximate
causes of many diseases. —

~~While I am delivering the theories of -~~
~~While I am unable to cannot give you~~
~~diseases~~
~~promise you more from any knowledge of~~
~~this principles of medicine~~ ~~But~~ I thus
publicly pledge myself never ^{attempt} to teach
you any thing that I do not believe or
understand. I will go further - & promise
that ~~if I have~~ if I should unfortunately
be led to communicate an opinion
to you that subsequent observations or
reflection should discover to be erroneous,



I will publicly retract it, for I consider
 truth ^{only} ~~only~~ to be knowledge, & that ^{an} ~~labouring~~
 attempt to defend an error, is only labour-
 -ing to be more ignorant. -

nor shall I be deterred by the fear of
 falling into mistakes from venturing to
 deliver conjectures, where demonstration
 cannot be obtained. - There ~~can be no~~
~~possibility~~ should these conjectures be erro-
 -neous they will notwithstanding serve
 the cause of truth - for I believe with Mr.
 Fontenelle that the number of false opinions
 upon all subjects is limited. Every unsuc-
 -cessful conjecture therefore removes a
 part of the rubbish which obstructs the
 avenue to truth, and thereby ^{contributes} facilitates
 to the success of
 future inquiries. - As moral good ~~is~~ ^{is}



known to mortals only thro' the medium of
^{moral} evil, ^{so} perhaps truth can be discovered ^{by them} only
 thro' the medium of ~~evil~~. error.

To encourage us to diligence & enterprise
 in ~~and~~ investigating the causes & cures of
 diseases, let us recollect ^{how} ^{of them} the many ~~diseases~~
 are now subject to our art which a few
 years ago eluded the power of medicine. ^{The} ~~the~~
 intermitting fever - ^{& the small pox have} ~~the~~ ^{in a}
 great degree ceased to be mortal; ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{disease disorders.} The last of these,
~~diseases~~ according to Dr Whist used to carry off
 $\frac{1}{10}$ part of the human race before the disco-
 -very of inoculation. In the ~~vic~~ Smith of the
 North near Edin^g? there is to be seen from the
 town of Leith a small island ^{to} on which
 persons infected with the venereal disease
 were ^{doomed to perish as incurable} ~~banished in~~ in a state of exile
 from their friends & society. That disgraceful

✓ But medicine has done more than this; by
^{modern}
the institution of humane Societies ^{it} ~~medicine~~
~~since~~ has encroached upon the territories of death;
& near thirteen hundred persons apparently dead
have been restored to life, ~~velocity~~ ^{alone} by the humane
Society of London, ^{the last} in the course of 13 years.

ago 41

diseases has long ^{ago} ceased to be the reproach
of medicine, and the persons ^{for the honor of the present day age} ~~affected~~ infected
with it are cured ~~in~~ without a violation
of the ^{Duties} rights of humanity. ^{anymore other} The ~~fevers~~
diseases might be mentioned, which have
ceased to be incurable; and of those which
we are as yet unable to cure, there is
scarcely one, which medicine is not
able to palliate, and thereby to smooth
the avenues of death. —

States

The ^{republican} forms of government of the United
are favourable to boldness & freedom of inquiry.

~~Has~~ medicine in common with many other
arts & sciences ~~has~~ felt the effects of it.

^{Successful treatment}
The ~~use of mercury~~ of the different species of
^{ulcerous} the Sore Throat by means of mercury was
discovered in America. I will recollect the
time when the ^{the very name of the} ~~Cynanche trachealis~~ or

✓ It might afford us some instruction to inquire into the causes which have contributed to the rapid advancement of medicine within the last 30 years. A principal one I believe to be ^{is} the disuse of the Latin language as a vehicle of the public lectures in the Universities of Scotland, & the present prevailing fashion of publishing all medical books (except the inaugural dissert^{ns}) in the English language. Even these are now frequently translated by their authors to ^{introduce} ~~engage~~ them into general notice. ~~to public attention~~. By this new & ^{rational} ~~enlightened~~ mode of communicating ^{medical} knowledge, ~~is medicine~~ it has attracted the notice & excited the in- & observing quiries of ingenious men in all professions, and thereby ^{raised a kind of galaxy} ~~many~~ facts have ~~now been~~ been created in the hemisphere of medicine. — Our Science has moreover by opening

commonly called ^{is} 2
the disease ~~known by the vulgar name of~~
could never be heard by the ~~father or mother~~
~~lives excited pale faces~~ ^{parents} ~~it was~~
of young children without ^{apparent} emotion - so far
~~known in the presence of the~~
great was its fatality; But it is now seldom
mortal. Even the Cholera Infantum which
formerly carried off ^{in the summer months} nearly half the children
that were born in our city, has been checked
in its mortality by the influence of ^{exercise} ~~country~~
generous diet, & country ^{air} - It is impossible
to mention these facts, without ^{entertaining} ~~anticipating~~
a hope that such changes are about to
take place in the moral & political state
of our country as will ^{render} it a more safe &
agreeable abode for ^{to man,} ~~the children~~ for children
extraordinary mortality of children seems to
have arisen from the operation of that good-
ness which delivers from evils to come. ✓

an english drop been prepared to associate
more easily with other Sciences, ~~which have~~
~~long ago been delivered from teaching~~ ^{laid aside their Romish government}
~~and~~ ^{each} from ~~all~~ of which it has received asis-
= tance & support. It is with singular Satisfac-
= tion that I am able to add & in this place,
that medicine has escaped from the Bastille
of the latin language in the University
of Cambridge in the State of Massachusetts. In
spite contempt of the last Vestige of ~~the barbar-~~
~~barbarism~~ ^{the} ~~barbarism~~ ^{century}, which remains in the
Scottish Universities of Scotland, they have lately
honoured ~~two~~ the Authors of two ^{english} inaugural
dissertations ~~was~~ with Degrees in Medicine.

In contemplating the ~~expands~~ ^{progress} of medicine in the world, & ~~the~~ in particular in the United States, I am naturally led to take notice of the benefits that are to be expected from the medical institutions in the city. The College of Physicians - the Hospital - & the Dispensary are all ~~our~~ nurseries of medicine. But this is not all - the fathers & founders of the Medical School of Philadelphia have come forward & taken their beloved offspring ~~and~~ ^{under} their protection. - ~~To the~~ ^{Three} ~~sons~~ of the Sons of the College respectable for their ~~characters~~ ^{abilities &} knowledge have been ^{called upon by them} ~~elect~~ ^{to fill} ~~the~~ to assist in the extending the empire of Science & Humanity in America. -

- For the appointment ^{to} which I have this day devoted myself I beg, ~~gentlemen~~ ^{gentlemen} ~~placets~~ ^{placets} you would accept

✓ They moreover promise much aid to the
Agriculture - manufactures & commerce
of our Country. - ^{The celebrated} ~~Dr~~ Linnaeus laid Sweden
^{under great} obligations to him by the application
^{his Discoveries in} of natural history & botany to those important
Objects, that he was lamented when he died
in a ~~short~~ eulogium delivered by the King
of Sweden from his throne.

~~From the~~
~~Science~~ ~~medical Science~~ will descend ~~in~~ ^{after}
 with honor & safety to posterity ~~when we~~ ^{Society &}
~~we~~ ^{we} shall have paid our last debts to nature.

To ~~the~~ By the establishment of a professorship
 of Natural history & Botany in our College,
 much benefit will arise to medicine,
 for ~~that~~ those important branches of
 knowledge ^{are} ~~is~~ the first links of the great
 chain which connects Materia -
 medica - Chemistry - & the practice
 of physic together. ✓ From the talents
 of the gentlemen who have been ^{this day} called
~~upon to assist in~~ ^{honoured with chairs in the College} ~~ministering at the altar~~
~~of Science in our College~~ we hope medicine
 will descend with safety & honor to
 posterity after those of us who are



advancing in life have paid ~~the~~ ~~due~~ our
last debts to nature & society. —

Gent.^l I shall begin my course by deliv-
-ering a few ^{preliminary} ~~preparatory~~ lectures upon
^{the animal Economy.}
~~physiology & pathology.~~ Dr Cullen's ~~Synopsi~~
~~nosologia methodica~~
-is shall continue to be ^{the} ~~my~~ textbook
of my lectures on the ^{theory &} practice of physic.

During the ^{last} ~~first~~ ~~short~~ ~~course~~ of
Having prepared ^{a few} ~~in~~ ~~few~~ lectures
upon the application of the principles
of philosophy - Chemistry - Medicine &
Economy to domestic & culinary pur-
-poses, I shall connect them with
~~the~~ ~~lectures~~ some part of the lectures
upon the cure of diseases. The subjects
of these lectures are important
in the highest degree, and could they



be handled as they deserve to be, they
would become ^{one of the} the most useful parts
of a physician's & a gentleman's edu-
-cation. — ~~The design of~~ Science will
~~reveal all its objects~~ ^{never} communicate
all its blessings ^{to the world} till
"it is brought home ^{to use the words of Lord} ~~(to use the words of~~
^{Bacon} Lord Bacon) to the bosoms of and
businesses of mankind". many of
the subjects that will be discussed in
~~these~~ these domestic & ^{lectures} ~~culinary~~ are
intimately connected with the preser-
-vation of health, and all of them lead
to the ^{philosophical} enjoyment of the conveniences
& pleasures of life.

= Whiston's & Newton's Lectures — very
well. —



